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detected during the course of the meridian-circle observations. Only such pairs have been measured as had not been adequately measured elsewhere.

R. G. AITKEN.

May 22, 1908.

#### PROGRESS ON THE CROSSLEY *EROS* SOLAR PARALLAX WORK.

The work of determining the solar parallax from the photographs of *Eros*, taken with the Crossley reflector in 1900, is almost completed. The plates which were selected for use have all been measured and reduced by Mrs. MOORE (*née* CHASE) and Miss HOBE. For some months now a discussion and comparison of the results has been in progress. This discussion is nearly completed, and it is hoped soon to send the manuscript to the printer.

While the final parallax has not yet been derived, it can be said that it will hardly differ  $0''.010$  from  $8''.800$ .

MT. HAMILTON, May 21, 1908.

C. D. PERRINE.

#### RECENT OBSERVATIONS OF THE MOVING OBJECT NEAR *JUPITER*, DISCOVERED AT GREENWICH BY MR. J. MELOTTE.

After the receipt of the telegraphic announcement of the discovery of this object, early in March, Dr. ALBRECHT obtained some photographs of the region with the Crossley reflector, on the nights of March 7th, 8th, and 9th. The new object (as well as the sixth and seventh satellites) is shown on the plates of March 8th and 9th. A position obtained on March 8th has been published.

Photographs have been obtained by the writer on March 24th, 27th, 31st, April 1st, 28th, and 29th, on which the Greenwich object, the sixth and seventh satellites are shown. The following positions have been derived from the photographs of April 1st and 29th:—

April, 1908.

$\alpha$	$1908.0$	$8^h 26^m 45^s.58$	$\delta$	$1908.0$	$+19^\circ 49' 27''.4$
$29$	$8$	$51$	$15$	$8$	$33$
					$44.22$
					$+19$
					$35$
					$49.0$

In brightness, the new object differs but little from the seventh satellite.

From a preliminary discussion of the observations from January 27th to April 3d, the Greenwich astronomers conclude that it belongs to *Jupiter*.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> *The Observatory* for May, 1908, and *A. N.*, No. 4246.

Mr. MELOTTE is to be congratulated upon so important a discovery. It is all the more creditable because it comes in the line of regular, routine work in observing satellites photographically, of which a number of valuable contributions have been published from Greenwich. It is also a credit to a climate which has the reputation of being unsuited to the exactions of large telescopes.

C. D. PERRINE.

Mt. HAMILTON, May 21, 1908.

#### MEASURES OF $\beta$ 208.

Dr. SEE has recently called attention to this binary star, stating that it is now passing periastron, and that the relative motion is therefore very rapid and the companion perhaps invisible. The following measures, made with the 36-inch refractor, may therefore be of interest:—

1907.21	181°.4	0".35	2 <sup>n</sup>
1908.28	190°.0	0".39	1 <sup>n</sup>

Comparing these positions with my measures in the two preceding years, viz:—

1905.18	167°.5	0".30	2 <sup>n</sup>
1906.10	177°.3	0".30	5 <sup>n</sup>

it does not appear that the apparent motion is increasing in rapidity at the present time. It would seem that any estimate of the form of the orbit is premature.

R. G. AITKEN.

May 22, 1908.

#### EXPLANATION AND CORRECTION.

The two half-tone illustrations of the solar corona accompanying my article, "The Crocker Eclipse Expedition of 1908," in the last number of these *Publications*, made and printed by an Eastern firm, were excellent in the proof-sheets supplied us, but so poor in the printed product that we regret having made another attempt to publish a corona in this manner. The engraver's printer has been the means of sadly misrepresenting this section of the expedition's work. An error was made, also, in orienting the half-tone block of the smaller corona (Frontispiece): the side marked *W* should have been marked *N*, etc.

W. W. CAMPBELL.